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Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Algæ Brasilienses a cl. Dr. Glaziou collectæ. M. Mobius. (Notarisia, Anno v. 1065–1090, one plate).

An enumeration of eighty-two species of Brazilian Algæ collected by Dr. Glaziou. No new species are described. The following are figured: *Entocladia viridis*, *Bryopsis plumosa*, *Odontothallia microdonta* and *Galaxaura*, spec.

Algæ collected in the neighborhood of Toronto—A Preliminary List of. J. J. Mackenzie. (Proc. Can. Inst. 3d Series, vii. 270–274).

Acineta densa. (Bot. Mag. T. 7143).

Annual Report of the State Botanist of the State of New York. Chas. H. Peck. (Pamph. pp. 54, four plates. Reprint from the forty-third Report of the New York State Museum of Natural History, Albany, 1890).

As usual, Mr. Peck's annual report contains much of interest and scientific value. 229 species of New York plants have been added to the State Herbarium, of which 105 are new to it, besides many extra-limital species. Twenty-three different persons contributed. Mr. Peck's field operations were conducted in several counties. Under "Plants not before Reported," are *Hesperis matronalis*, from Albany Co., *Prunus avium*, from near Catskill, *Trapa natans*, established in Sander's Lake, near Schenectady, *Aster vimineus* not rare in the eastern part of Long Island, *Lacnanthes tinctoria*, Manor, Suffolk Co., *Cynodon Dactylon*, vacant lots in Long Island City. Some of these have, however, been previously found in other parts of the State. The others of this category are Fungi, of which the following are described as new: *Tricholoma grave*, *Clitocybe multiceps*, *Coprinus Brassicæ*, *Cortinarius glutinosus*, *C. annulatus*, *C. luteus*, *C. paludosus*, *Lactarius subinsulsus*, *L. mutabilis*, *Russula brevipes*, *Marasmius albiceps*, *Poria aurea*, *Irpex rimosus*, *Corticium subaurantiacnm*, *C. basale*, *Peniophora unicolar*, *Clavaria similis*, *Comatricha longa*, *C. subcæspitosa*, *Phyllosticta bicolor*, *P. Prini*, *P. Silenes*, *Phoma allantella*, *Plasmopora Viburni*, *Sporotrichum cinereum*, *Coniosporium Polytrichi*, *Stachybotrys elongata*, *Dematium parasiticum*, *Fusicladium destruens*, *Macrosporium Polytrichi*, *Isaria aranea-*

rum, Tubercularia carpogena, Fusarium Sclerodermatis, Glœosporium leptospermum, Underwoodia, a new genus of Helvellaceæ, with *U. columnaris, Helotium mycetophilum, Hæmatomyces faginea, Eutypella longirostris, Lepiota farinosa, Pholiota æruginosa* and *Phellorina Californica,* the three latter species extralimital.

Under "Remarks and Observations," *Ranunculus Clintoni,* Beck, now referred to *R. repens,* still occurs along the Erie Canal between Rome and Oriskany, *Lythrum alatum* occurs at Selkirk, Albany Co., *Sium cicutæfolium,* var. *brevifolium,* a new variety from Cedar Lake, St. Lawrence Co., and many other important notes on distribution.

There is also a monograph of the three New York species of *Armillaria* and a synopsis of those of the United States, and an account by Mr. P. H. Dudley of the growth of fungi on railroad timber. N. L. B.

Aristolochia longecaudata. (Gard. Chron., viii. 493, fig. 98).

Ascomycetes Novi. P. A. Karsten and P. Hariot (Revue Mycol. xii. 169–173).

Includes *Chlorosplenium tuberosum* from Cape Horn, *Nectria Harioti,* from New Granada and *Kullhemia phyllophora* from Brazil.

Black Rot of the Grape—Some Recent Observations on. B. T. Galloway. (Bot. Gaz. xv. 255–259).

Botany at the Indianapolis Meeting. C. E. Bessey. (Am. Nat. xxiv. 958-964).

List and abstracts of the botanical papers read before the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Botanical Club of the Association and the Society for the Promotion of Agriculture during the August meetings of the present year at Indianapolis.

California Lilies. (Garden, xxxviii. Pl. 776).

Accompanying this article is a colored plate of *Lilium pardalinum, var. luteum, L. Bolanderi* and *L. maritimum.*

Catalpa—The. (Garden & Forest, iii. 533, 534).

Catalpa Trees—Two Remarkable. H. Brooks. Garden & Forest, iii. 536, figs. 68, 69).

Accompanying this article are representations of large individ uals of *Catalpa bignonioides* on the P. C. Brooks estate at West Medford, Mass. These trees have produced drooping branches which have rooted and produced shoots, thus forming a miniature forest of young *Catalpas.*

Contributions à la Flore du Paraguay—III. Polygalacées. Dr. Robert Chodat. (Mem. Soc. Phys. et Hist. Nat. Genève xxx. No. 8).

Under this title are described twenty-six species of *Polygala* found in Paraguay, twelve of which are beautifully figured in six plates. The drawings bring out clearly the style and seed characters.

Cruel Plant—The. Arthur Henry. (Proc. Can. Inst., 3d Series, vii, 226–229, illustrated).

An account of the method by which *Physianthus albens* catches and holds visiting moths.

Cucumber Root—The. (Am. Garden, xi. 691, illustrated).

Medeola Virginica is figured under this caption.

Dewberries—The. (Am. Garden, xi. 641, 642, illustrated).

Contains descriptions of *Rubus Canadensis, R. hispidus* and *R. trivialis*, with fig. of the second named species and a full page representation of *R. Canadensis*, var. *roribaccus*, which is described as a new variety, said to be native in the hills of West Virginia.

Distribution of Plants—The. V. M. Spaulding. (Am. Nat. xxiv. 819–831)

Professor Spaulding reviews in a very interesting manner the historical development of the study of this topic, beginning with Humboldt's essay in 1805. He points out some of the views held by him and subsequent authors, and concludes that the end has not yet been reached. It is to be regretted that this paper was not presented at Indianapolis, so that it might have been incorporated with the others there given, which are to be published as a group in the proceedings of the American Association.

N. L. B.

Eriogoneæ. (Gard. Chron., viii. 525, fig, 103, 104, 105).

Contains figures of *Eriogonum corymbosum, E. racemosum* and *E. Thomasii.*

Eriogynia—On the Genus. Sereno Watson. (Bot. Gaz., xv. 241, 242, Pl. xiv).

The discovery of a new rosaceous plant allied to *Spiræa cæspitosa*, Nutt. has determined the author to study certain allied species of *Spiræa* with the result that: "If *Eriogynia pectinata* is rightly separated from *Spiræa*, as I think, then *S. cæspitosa* should rather be joined with it than retained in *Spiræa*, and with it should go our new species, which I have accordingly named *E. uniflora*." Nevertheless the author admits that the differences between the species is so marked that he proposes to divide the genus into three sections as follows: *Eriogynia* proper, represented by *E. pectinata*, *Petrophytum* by *E. cæspitosa*, and *Kelseya* (named in honor of the discoverer, Rev. F. D. Kelsey) for *E. uniflora*. The three species are represented on the accompanying plate.

Eucalyptus and the Honey Bee. Mrs. R. F. Bingham (Bull. Santa Barbara Soc. Nat. Hist. i. No. 2, 32–34).

Eucharis Bakeriana. (Bot. Mag. T. 7144).

Ferns—Native. Mrs. J. T. Power. (Am. Garden, xi. 658–662, illustrated).

Contains figures of *Osmunda cinnamomea, O. Claytoniana, Aspidium acrostichoides*, *Polypodium vulgare* and *Pellæa gracilis.*

Ferns of the Channel Islands. L. G. Yates. (Bull. Santa Barbara Soc. Nat. Hist. i. No. 2, 8-10).

Polypodium Scouleri found on Santa Cruz.

Flora Brasiliensis—Fasc. CVIII. Cactaceæ. Carolus Schumann. (pp. 186-334, tab. 39-63).

This fascicle completes Vol. iv. Part 2. Twenty genera and about 130 species are described, a considerable number of the latter being new.

Food Plants of the Clover-stem Borer. Clarence M. Weed. (Amer. Nat. xxiv. 867).

Forms of Staten Island Plants. N. L. Britton. (Proc. Nat. Sci. Assn. S. I., Nov. 8, 1890).

The author notes the occurrence on Staten Island of *Sabbatia stellaris* forma *albiflora* and *Aster Novæ-Angliæ* forma *roseus.*

Fruit Plants—The Evolution vnd Variation of. J. H. Bourn. (Trans. Mass. Hort. Soc., 1889, Part i, 14–29).

Lemon—On the Structure and Development of the. L. S. Ross. (Bot. Gaz. xv. 262–267, Pl. xvi).

From what is evidently careful study and examination, the author says: "that every part of the fruit has its origin from some part of the leaf." The pulp clubs are stated to be derived from the leaf hairs, and in this connection it is of interest to note that under the title "The Ideal Ovary," Mr. E. E. Sterns (BULLETIN, xvi. 77) says: "*Apropos* of the Orange I may add here the observation that the stalked, elongated, juice-filled cells of the pulp, springing from the inner surface of the carpellary leaf, are true trichomes in structure and position, and therefore, when we revel in the fruits of *Citrus Aurantium,* we are, morphologically speaking, eating hairs." The excellent figures greatly assist in understanding what has already been written on the subject.

List of Botanists of the Agricultural Experiment Stations in the United States. (U. S. Dept. Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull. No. 6, pamph. pp. 23, 1890).

This paper gives a list of the Agricultural Experiment Stations and their officers, together with a digest of the lines of work now being prosecuted. It was prepared by a committee from the Association of American Agricultural Colleges, consisting of Prof. Halsted, Prof. Scribner and Mr. Galloway.

Lyonothamnus asplenifolius. H. C. Ford. (Bull. Santa Barbara Soc. Nat. Hist. i. No. 2, 56–58).

An account of this beautiful tree as studied by Dr. Yates and Prof. Ford on the island of Santa Cruz.

Medicinal Plants Growing Wild in Santa Barbara and Vicinity. Mrs. R. F. Bingham. (Bull. Santa Barbara Soc. Nat. Hist. i. No. 2, 34-37).

Medicinischen Pflanzen von Alabama—Die. Carl Mohr. Pharm. Rundsch., viii, 257-262).

This part includes the species from Rosaceæ to Filices and terminates the series.

Mock Oranges. (Garden, xxxviii. 413, illustrated).

Under this heading are notes upon *Philadelphus coronarius, P. Gordonianus, P. speciosus, P. microphyllus* and *P. grandiflorus* —the latter figured.

Monographia Generis Coccolobæ. G. Lindau. (Engler's Bot. Jahrb. xiii. 106–229, t. v).

A monograph of the polygonaceous genus *Cocoloba,* including a discussion of its morphology. 125 species are recognised, of which a large number are described as new. *C. Floridana* Meisn. of the Florida Keys is referred to *C. laurifolia,* Jacq., a widely distributed species of the West Indies. A single species only is attributed to Bolivia, bnt Dr. Rusby brought home three from there and Mr. Bang has since collected another.

N. L. B.

Monterey Cypress—The. A. D. Webster. (Garden, xxxviii. 363, illustrated).

Account and representation of *Cupressus macrocarpa* as growing at Castlewellan.

Palms of the California Border—The. S. B. Parish. (Garden & Forest, iii. 542).

The author contends that the identity of the *Washingtonias* near the southern boundary of California is very uncertain and the supposed *W. filifera* of San Bernardino Co. may be *W. robusta,* and if so it would be the proper name for the only true palm known from the State of California.

Pereskia aculeata. (Bot. Mag. T. 7147).

Physianthus albens. Chas. Armstrong. (Proc. Can. Inst. 3d Series, vii, 230, 231).

Apparently an independent account of similar investigations indexed under the heading "The Cruel Plant."

Pinus Montezumæ. (Gard. Chron. viii. 466, figs. 91, 92, 93, 94, 96).

An article describing this species as it is growing in Cornwall, England.

Plane Trees—Origin of the. Lester F. Ward. (Am. Nat., xxiv. 797-810, Pl. xxvii).

The author criticises a recent paper upon this subject by Johann Janko in Vol. xi. of Engler's *Botanische Jahrbücher* and revises the geological distribution of recognized fossil species of the genus *Platanus.* There is considerable diverstiy of opinion between the two authors and there is evidently room for further criticism.

The article is accompanied by representations of leaves of *Platanus orientalis* L., *P. occidentalis*, L., *P. racemosa*, Nutt. and *Sassafras Cretaceum*, Newb.

Plants collected in 1889 *at Socorro and Clarion Islands, Pacific Ocean.* Geo. Vasey and J. N. Rose. (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. xiii. 145–149, reprinted).

These islands are situated about 260 miles south of Cape St. Lucas and were visited in 1889 by the Fish Commission steamer "Albatross," the botanical collections being made by Mr. Chas. H. Townsend. The following new species are described: *Teurium Townsendii*, *Cardiospermum Palmeri.*

Promising Wild Fruits—II. A. A. Crozier. (Am. Garden, xi. 649–653, illustrated).

Crabs, Plums, the Buffalo Berry, Cacti and Persimmons are discussed in this contribution, and *Pyrus coronaria* and *Diospyros Virginiana* are figured.

Rubus Arten der Antillen. W. O. Focke. (Abhand. Naturn. Ver. Bremen, xi. 409–412).

Descriptions of the three species known from the West Indies: 1. *R. durus*, Sauv. (Cuba, Wright, 2410); 2. *R. florulentus*, Focke. (Porto Rico, Sintensis 4100; 4669, with var. *Eggersii.* Focke (St. Domingo, Eggers 2065); 3. *R. Domingensis*, Focke (St. Domingo, Eggers, 2281). All three have ternate leaves. There is apparently a fourth species in Guadaloupe.

N. L. B.

Shrubs of Santa Barbara County—The indigenous. H. C. Ford. (Bull. Santa Barbara Soc. Nat. Hist. i. No. 2, 29–31).

A list of about sixty species.

St. Johnsworts—Two American. (Garden & Forest, iii. 524, 525, figs. 26, 27).

Under this heading are described and figured *Hypericum prolificum* and *H. densiflorum.*

The Silva of North America. A Description of the Forest Trees which grow naturally in North America exclusive of Mexico. By Charles Sprague Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Illustrated with Figures and

Analyses drawn from Nature by Charles Edward Faxon and engraved by Philibert and Eugene Picart. Volume I. Magnoliaceæ—Ilicineæ. Large 4to, pp. ix+119; 50 plates. Boston and New York. Houghton, Mifflin and Co., 1891.

It is with a sense of profound gratitude and the highest admiration for the immense labor devoted to the work that we cordially welcome the appearance of the first volume of this magnificent book. Professor Sargent has been engaged in the accumulation of the material now collated and given to the world, for a large number of years, and the result will rank with the best classical works on Science and Art that have ever been issued at home or abroad.

The book is sumptuously printed on heavy paper and cut with broad margins. The illustrations are superb. The descriptions are excellent and the notes on geographical distribution, history and economic importance are of the highest interest and value.

The descriptions of genera and species, which follow the sequence adopted in the Genera Plantarum of Bentham and Hooker, are prefaced by an account of the various publications which have been especially devoted to our trees; the earliest being Humphrey Marshall's "Arbustum Americanum" and the most recent noted Professor Edward L. Greene's "West American Oaks."

The author's definition of a tree is certainly the most rational one. He says "The line which divides trees from shrubs is a purely arbitrary one, and an attempt to separate them is often unsatisfactory. A division based on habit rather than on size seems, on the whole, more easily applied than any other, and therefore less objectionable. So, for the purposes of this work I have considered as trees all woody plants which grow up from the ground with a single stem, whatever size or height they may attain." As to the number of species coming within this definition it is stated "The forests of North America, exclusive of Mexico, are now believed to contain four hundred and twenty-two, besides numerous varieties."

The question of nomenclature is treated of in the following sentences: "I have adopted the method which imposes upon a plant the oldest generic name applied to it by Linnæus in the first edition of the "Genera Plantarum," published in 1737, or by any subsequent author, and the oldest specific name used by Linnæus in the first edition of the Species Plantarum, published in 1753, or by any subsequent author, without regard to the fact that such a specific name may have been associated at first with a generic name improperly employed. The rigid application of this rule leads to the change of many familiar names and considerable temporary confusion. But unless it is adopted, anything like stability of nomenclature is hopeless, and the sooner the changes which are inevitable in the future are made, the more easily students will become accustomed to them and acquire a knowledge of the correct names of our trees." This position will be heartily welcomed by almost every American botanist. Indeed, we believe that the publication of this great work on this principle will practically remove all opposition to the method here adopted, and which some of us have for many years foreseen as the only escape from a very troublesome question.

The following species are described and figured in this volume:—*Magnolia fœtida; Magnolia glauca; Magnolia acuminata; Magnolia tripetala; Magnolia Fraseri; Liriodendron Tulipifera; Asimina triloba; Anona glabra; Capparis Jamaicensis; Canella alba; Gordonia Lasianthus; Gordonia Altamaha; Fremontia Californica; Tilia Americana; Tilia pubescens; Tilia heterophylla; Guiacum sanctum; Xanthoxylum Clava-Herculis; Xanthoxlum cribrosum; Xanthoxylum Fagara; Ptelea trifoliata; Helietta parvifolia; Amyris maritima; Canotia holacantha; Simaruba glauca; Kœberlinia spinosa; Bursera Simaruba; Swietenia Mahogani; Ilex opaca; Ilex Cassine; Ilex vomitoria; Ilex decidua* and *Ilex monticola.* According to our view the correct name of the last is *Ilex montana.*

The Silva will be completed in 12 volumes, to be issued two each year. The price is fixed at $25.00 per volume. It ought to find a place in every public library in this country and abroad and the proprietor of every country place will be one thing short of complete equipment, until a copy of it is within reach in his drawing-room.

N. L. B.

Trees of North Eastern America—The. Charles S. Newhall, with an introductory note by Nath. L. Britton (8vo. New York. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1890).

This work is an illustration of what has been styled "Delatinized Botany." In it no descriptive terms are used other than those consisting of common English words. Such works are written and consulted under the apprehension that there is an easier and more convenient way of expressing and receiving scientific ideas than by the use of scientific language. That this is a serious misapprehension there is no doubt. It belies the fundamental principle of scientific language, whose precise object is the reaching of the result by the shortest and most convenient method consistent with accuracy. It is true that certain results more or less valuable may be attained by the method of this author; but even where the results are not in themselves erroneous they must in some cases involve false teaching. There is a way of compromising by the admission of the minimum number of technical terms, using them only where it is necessary to avoid giving a false impression—which seems to us much better. For instance Mr. Newhall substitutes for *obovate* the term "inverse egg-shaped." How unfortunate! An egg is ovoid—solid—while ovate refers to a surface. And then, who knows which is the "reverse" way of an egg? The prefix *ob* in *obovate* does not refer to the reversion of the egg, but to the reversion of the ovate shape of the leaf. Both ovate and obovate are the technical creations of scientific language, created for the very reason that they were needed, and in this form as the most convenient one. How much easier, as well as better, for the author to have taught his readers the use of the terms *ovoid*, *ovate* and *ob*, thus elevating them and his subject at the same time, than to have thus misled the one and degraded the other! Is this not ob-education? But it is not intended to decry the attempt to provide useful works for those unable to study nature scientifically. Neither is it intended to decry the value of Mr. Newhall's work; but only to criticise certain false methods which we are sorry to see receiving his support. On the whole we can heartily endorse the statements in the introductory note that there is great need of such a popular work. We anticipate and bespeak for the work a large sale, but we hope that the author will in a subsequent edition substitute graceful and accurate terms for a number of clumsy and inaccurate ones. The illustrations also should be improved, as they are decidedly below the standard of publications of this kind. H. H. R.

Umbelliferæ:—Notes on North American.—II. John M. Coulter and J. N. Rose. (Bot. Gaz. xv, 259,-261, Pl. vv.)

The following are described as new: *Hydrocotyle Bonariensis*, Lam. var. *Texana*, and *Arracacia Donnell-Smithii*, the latter figured.

Yuccas.—Some Good. A. Davenport. (Am. Garden, xi. 666, 667, illutrated.)

Contains a picture of *Yucca gloriosa* var. *recurvifolia*.

Proceedings of the Club,

The Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 11th, the President in the Chair and fifteen persons present.

The Chairman of the Committee on Instruction reported favorably on the season's work. The majority of the students are continuing their botanical work.

The paper as announced, "Notes on the Spring Flora of the Southern Alleghanies," was then given by Miss Anna Murray Vail.

Among the many plants shown *Clematis Addisonii*, the new species which Dr. Britton has named for our President, attracted most attention.

The Second November meeting was held Nov. 26th, the President in the Chair and twenty-nine persons present.

Mr. R. S. Williams and F. D. Kelsey were elected Corresponding Members and Mr. F. W. Anderson an Active Member.

The amendment to the Constitution was voted upon and carried unanimously.

The regular meeting days will now be the second Tuesday and last Wednesday of each month.

Dr. Rusby's paper, "Collecting in the Tropical Andes," then followed. At its close the Club listened with great attention to remarks corroborative of Dr. Rusby's experience and descriptive of his own from Dr. Thos. Morong, who has just returned from Paraguay and Chili.